

# TIDINGS

The Church of the Good Shepherd  
Cashiers, North Carolina



## From Perrin Dargan, Senior Warden

Now that we're past Labor Day and looking back on the 2021 summer season, it seems appropriate to take stock of the last few months—to look at where we've been, what we've done, and where are now. Fortunately, despite the continued presence of the Covid-19 pandemic, thanks to the astonishing efforts of so many, we are in a very good place. Following is a summary of some of the highlights.

Perhaps the most significant addition to the church grounds in many years is the creation of the columbarium and memorial garden and the new and expanded parking lot. This process started nearly three years ago, when we began discussions with High Hampton about entering into a land swap in order to accommodate changes to High Hampton's new golf course. The result for us was a nice net gain in acreage to the north and south. This gave us the space to expand parking to the north and add the columbarium and memorial garden to the south.

The new columbarium has 151 niches, each of which can house the remains of two. Moreover, we were able to significantly improve the beauty and contemplative atmosphere of the existing ash memorial garden and add capacity to later double its size as necessary. I encourage anyone thinking of making Good Shepherd their final resting place to learn more about this wonderful facility.

The centerpiece of the new meditation garden is Wesley Wofford's beautiful sculpture Chosen, depicting Jesus holding a child. On September 5 we held the first sacrament in the meditation garden, which was the baptism of an infant, right next to Chosen. It was wonderful, and I look forward to many more such happy occasions in this special space.

The expanded parking lot has given us an additional 15-plus parking spaces, as well as much larger spaces than before. In the process of resurfacing, we were also able to improve drainage, which will make the lot much safer during freezing weather.

Our Junior Warden Patch Foster has worked tirelessly overseeing all of this work under very difficult circumstances, given all of the labor and building-material shortages brought on by the pandemic. I do not believe these projects would have been completed so successfully without his efforts.

Another long term project that also began nearly three years ago is our Visioning process. Initially we developed our new Mission statement, "To reflect God's love through our faith in action." Then we developed a new five-year Vision Statement guided by that mission. Following that we have been working on developing a detailed plan to implement that five-year Vision, which has begun to show real results this summer. In addition to the Vestry, there are now approximately forty parishioners who have gotten heavily involved in this process. You may have noticed the many "Vision Corner" articles that have appeared in the Weekly News email. A few significant developments that took place over the summer are the hiring of our new Communications Director Cari Sanders; the engagement of our two new Volunteer Coordinators Rose Mary Achey and Julia Boeve; the creation of a new "In the Fold" Committee, which strives to keep in touch with all members of the parish to help ensure that no member's spiritual or emotional needs go unmet; and the establishment of the new youth room and associated youth and young family activities. I urge anyone interested in getting involved in this rewarding Visioning process to please contact Rose Mary or Julia.

The expansion of our Bazaar Barn activities has been nothing short of amazing. As many are already aware, in addition to adding more square footage we made the decision to hire a year-round manager for the Barn and expand the operating hours considerably. We are blessed to have Skip Ryan in that position. At this point in the year the Barn is on pace to exceed revenues generated last year, which was itself a record year for the Barn. Of course, because all of the net proceeds from the Barn go directly into our Outreach programs, this allows us to expand our positive impact for those in our community who most need our help—in other words, as our Mission Statement tells us, "to reflect God's love through our faith in action." We are very grateful for the efforts of our volunteer Bazaar Barn Committee and Skip for making this happen.

Of course, at the core of what we do is worship. Again, despite the pandemic, our worship services have continued throughout, in one form or another, sometimes masked, sometimes not, but always beautiful, spiritually meaningful, and well attended. We are grateful to Rob, Murdock, Lyn, the Altar Guild and our many volunteers who make the services so special regardless of often trying circumstances.

One unfortunate development has been the departure of our Curate Murdock Jones for an Assistant Rector position in Chattanooga. We knew Murdock would not be with us forever, but we definitely miss his presence. Of course we wish him and Mary Catherine the very best. In response to this the Vestry continues to explore new opportunities to help Rob and the staff with our growing congregation and our expanding activities.

It's been a busy few months! And, as I said at the top, despite the pandemic, we are very blessed to be in a good place—thanks in significant part to the leadership, vision and hard work of our Rector. Congratulations and many thanks to Rob, Ellen, Christy, Lyn the Vestry and our many volunteers who work so hard to accomplish all of this so that we can continue "to reflect God's love through our faith in action"!

## October Birthdays

2 JOSIE AYERS  
 3 BEV SEINSHEIMER  
 3 ANDREW HUDSON  
 4 DOREEN HASTINGS  
 4 CHERI ALLEN  
 8 SUE ANN GLENN  
 10 CLAUDIA NAUGHTON  
 11 BETTY SPONCLER  
 11 SUSAN HEATLEY  
 12 MARY MCCONNELL  
 12 WIMBERLEY WATTS  
 13 ALICE SCANLON  
 14 BARRIE GRIFFIN  
 14 BROMLEY SHARRETT  
 16 DEBBIE MONTEITH  
 16 LISA DARGAN  
 17 MARCIA MCCARLEY  
 17 JOHN RAGSDALE  
 18 HOWARD L'ENFANT  
 18 REBECCA MCKEE  
 20 MADELINE DAVIS  
 20 KEITH CROSTHWAITE  
 20 MARK QUICK  
 22 JOHN WEAN  
 22 WILLIAM HOPKINS  
 24 BETH COLE  
 29 LARRY COLE  
 30 JUDY PAULY  
 31 SHARON BISSELL  
 31 BARBARA COLLIE

## New Faces at Good Shepherd!

We are so pleased that even during this pandemic we have continued to open our doors to our community...and look who has come in! Be sure to introduce yourself!

**Ann Lea | Pat Alders**



**Skip & Susan Hickenlooper**

## Fall Parish Meeting

Tuesday, November 16, 2021  
 5:00 - 5:30 pm, Fellowship  
 5:30 pm, Meeting Starts

## October Anniversaries

10/3 BILL & ELISABETH HOFFMAN  
 10/4 PATCH FOSTER & KEVIN ROWLAND  
 10/12 BILL & EVELYN CALLAGHAN  
 10/15 MIKE & VIRGINIA MONSOUR  
 10/15 SCOTT & AMY THOMPSON  
 10/16 ROB & LINDA WOOD  
 10/18 VIC & MIMI GALEF

10/19 JOHN & BROOK OWENS  
 10/22 ED & ANN HOPKINS  
 10/23 DAVID & NORA JONES  
 10/25 DICK & DARYL SHANKLAND  
 10/25 KEITH & LOLLY CRAWFORD  
 10/26 MIKE & MARY QUILLEN

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY IS MISSING PLEASE CONTACT ELLEN  
 AT 743-2359 OR GOODSHEPADMIN@FRONTIER.COM

## Operating Fund Budget Summary through August 31

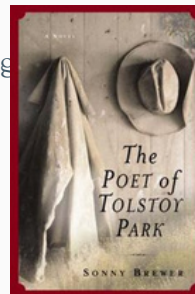
Category	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual Budget
Operating Contributions			
Pledge & Plate	\$438,528.01	\$480,188.36	\$658,000.00
Other contributions	<u>\$35,998.01</u>	<u>\$35,733.36</u>	<u>\$52,000.00</u>
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$472,526.02	\$515,921.72	\$710,000.00
Operating Expenses			
Personnel	\$286,309.00	\$274,057.16	\$433,266.00
Worship & Christian Form.	\$8,450.08	\$9,342.28	\$14,150.00
Parish Life & Family Activity	\$5,500.00	\$4,025.04	\$9,800.00
Building & Grounds	\$63,404.22	\$43,425.58	\$96,600.00
Administrative	\$73,284.26	\$71,520.31	\$118,064.00
Outreach from General Fund	<u>\$38,000.00</u>	<u>\$38,000.00</u>	<u>\$38,120.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$474,947.56	\$440,370.37	\$710,000.00
Operating Cash Flow*	\$2,421.54	\$75,551.35	\$0.00

\*Thank you for your generosity this year! Some of this YTD positive cash flow results from Murdock's departure and other timing issues for expected expenses.

## Book Review FROM BECKY GREENE

*The Poet of Tolstoy Park* | By: Sonny Brewer, 2005

Canyon County, Idaho, 1925. Henry Stuart is sixty-seven, a retired professor and a widower suffering from a life-threatening illness and has been told that a warmer climate will make the end more tolerable. Much to the dismay of his family, Henry moves to Fairhope, Alabama, a haven for strong-minded souls, buys ten acres of piney woods, and lives in a barn while he builds a round house of handmade concrete blocks.



Before dying, inspired by the writings of his beloved Tolstoy, Henry plans to “perfect the soul awarded him.” His new neighbors, including Clarence Darrow, are perplexed by this philosopher poet, who shares his ideas—which are not always popular—with anyone who will listen. Mysteriously, his “last few months” evolve into years. Henry had gone looking for a place to learn lessons in dying and, studiously, earns a vigorous new life. (from a review)

The Poet of Tolstoy Park is based on the true story of Henry Stuart. The words of wisdom written in this book are SO worth contemplating. The poem that ends it I will forever cherish.

## Stewardship 2022 Campaign making progress!

Pledge Cards and Time & Talent cards are being returned! As of September 28, we have received 140 pledges for 2022 in the amount of \$516,940. Thank you! Our goal is to reach 210 pledges, so if you have not pledged, we hope to hear from you soon. Cards are available online and at the church. We thank you for your generosity and careful consideration as you commit to being part of our mission to reflect God's love through faith in action.

## Conkle-Rowe Scholarship Drive Progress

As of 9/30/21 we have received gifts in the amount of \$35,965. Thank you for your generosity! Envelopes are available at the church or remember that you can also make your donation online.



The Reverend Robert B. Wood, Rector  
rwood.gs@gmail.com  
The Reverend Toby Summerour, Adjunct Priest

Church of the Good Shepherd  
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Cashiers, North Carolina 28717

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Vestry Officers:  
Perrin Dargan, Senior Warden  
Patch Foster, Junior Warden  
Irv Welling, Interim Treasurer  
Ellen Albright, Clerk

Vestry:  
Sandra Swartzfager      Peg Kirchner  
Jim Recktenwald      Lenny Blevins  
Laura Lankford      Doreen Hastings  
Lynn Jones      Mark Quick  
Lea Thompson

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Staff:  
Ellen Albright, Parish Administrator  
goodshepadmin@frontier.com  
Christy Banks, Finance & Accounts Manager  
Dr. Lyn Ellen Burkett, Organist & Choir Master  
Donna Patton, Nursery & Office Assistant  
Skip Ryan, Bazaar Barn Manager  
Cari Sanders, Communications Director

Church Phone: (828)743-2359  
Website: [www.goodshepherdofcashiers.com](http://www.goodshepherdofcashiers.com)

## Volunteer Opportunities at Good Shepherd

### Junior Appalachian Musicians

Fall semester at Good Shepherd starting Sept. 13th and meeting every Monday for 12 weeks.  
Need: Volunteer to provide a healthy snack, and be on hand from around 3:15 to 3:45ish to serve it.  
We are looking for someone who loves to work w/food & enjoys seeing happy kids.  
We have an ample budget for reimbursements.  
Contact: Debbie Lassiter | Deb.lassiter11@gmail.com | 828-200-0036

### Youth & Children Events

Need: Volunteers. This position will assist with youth and children events.  
Contact: Lynn Jones | lbj3@frontier.com | 828-743-7818

Want to get involved?

Contact Julia Boeve and Rose Mary Achey at [VolunteerGoodShep@gmail.com](mailto:VolunteerGoodShep@gmail.com) to find out how!